



ALEXANDRIA:

FRIDAY MORNING, APRIL 26, 1861.

Some of the Northern "Republicans" profess to be rejoiced that the "seat of war" has been removed from the coasts of Carolina, and Florida, and Louisiana, to the borders of Virginia, and that we here are made to feel the "bitterness" of civil strife. It is a necessity which we have all along foreseen, in the event of Lincoln pursuing the policy which he has determined to take, and it is that, which has contributed to increase and exasperate the people of Virginia, and, especially, the Constitutional Union men of the State, against him. We here had no hand in bringing about the troubles of the country—a majority of sixty thousand were opposed to Secession, and in favor, if possible, of settling the troubles—we were doing all that we could to that end—and, yet, in the face of that, Lincoln acted as he has done and aimed his deadliest blow at the Union men of Virginia. "Is there no arm red with unconquered wrath," to drive the author of civil war, from place and power?

When the two sections of the country are drawn up in hostile array, and men, formerly in the service of what was the United States, are called upon to decide whether they will fight for or against their native States, for or against their own blood, it is a mean and miserable proceeding to endeavor to malign and traduce those who quit the service which would force them to draw their swords against their brothers at home. We do not, and never have, approved of such cases as Gen. Twiggs, and one or two other similarly situated officers. But no affected displeasure of Lincoln's government, and no action on its part, against army and navy officers, who choose to resign their situations, and embark under the flags of their own native States, can blur the fame or injure the character of those officers. On the contrary, they do as all honorable military men should do.

Lynchburg and Staunton are distinguishing themselves in arming, in equipping, and supporting volunteer companies. Let us do justice to our gallant little city. The volunteer companies of this place, as we have already noticed, have nobly, and promptly responded to the call to arms, with full ranks—the citizens are liberal in the offer of aid and comfort to their defenders—the ladies are enthusiastic and active, preparing clothing and offering their services as nurses for the sick—the Home Guards, for home defense, are drilling and preparing, and ready—the older people are doing their duty, in such services as are required of them, in the general desire to aid the State. We have never known more unanimity, more patriotism, more determination. All honor to Alexandria, in common with her sister cities and towns, throughout the State.

The voice of approbation at the appointment of ROBERT E. LEE, as Major General of the Forces of Virginia, comes up to us, already, from all parts of the State heard from. The news was received by the Military in this section of the Commonwealth, officers and men, with enthusiasm. Now, they say, we have a Commander-in-Chief to direct the military operations of the State, in whom we have implicit confidence—whose courage is undoubted—whose experience has been honorably gained—whose skill has been proved—whose ability is acknowledged. This is not a time to challenge comparisons, or to "pit" one man against another. But we are willing to trust Lee's judgment, decision, and energy against that of Scott's, or any other man. He is not an old man yet—but he is a veteran in service.

The practical secession of Virginia, and the actual resistance and arming of the State, have given much satisfaction in the South—especially, it would appear in Louisiana—where, until now, we believe there was a good deal of feeling against the course which has been pursued there. The New Orleans Delta agrees to raise the Southern flag, for the first time. The action of Virginia will have naturally great influence in North Carolina and Kentucky.

The Northern capitalists, who have made most of their money out of the South, are the most ready, in the present crisis, to give their money to the enemies of the South. We wonder why the New York Hotels, the Newport, Saratoga and other watering places, and the shops of Broadway, and Chestnut street, which have all lived and grown rich upon the South, for the last five years, did not club in, and send a "regiment of their own," to help Lincoln to "coerce" their old friends and customers!

A native townsman asks us to state, that he has observed the course and conduct of many in this place and neighborhood, since the present troubles began, who are natives of other States, or countries, but resident here for years; and he has not seen a case of one who is not faithful and loyal to the Commonwealth, and who is not willing to aid the cause of the State, in any manner he is able to do—and that to the extent of his power. This is honorable to them.

The Mayor of Baltimore reports that Chase, the Secretary of the Treasury, says of the Southern States—"let them go in peace." If he said so, and the Mayor vouches for it, why is he not true to his word—why does he prevent us from "going in peace"? To "go in peace" is all we want. Is there no reliance to be placed in the words or promises of any man in power in Washington?

It is announced in the Philadelphia American that it has received "reliable information" to this effect:

"The Virginians and other secessionists engaged in the plots against Washington will attempt the execution of a plan by which they will throw a strong column of troops upon the eastern shore of Maryland and another upon the western shore, so as to guard all the arteries leading into or from the Chesapeake Bay, thus isolating the capital from approach by that direction. Should this be attempted in any great force it will give the government infinite trouble, as they have only a single regiment at Annapolis and another at Annapolis Junction. No immediate attack on the capital is contemplated so far as we can learn, the plan of operations being rather to cut it off from the north completely, and then gather a strong army to lay siege."

This is the information communicated in the North, by the Republican organs—and what is more, this was to have been done, according to same authority, last Wednesday!

The Baltimore American says: The Federal troops at Fortress Monroe are supposed to be fortifying the Rip Raps, an unfinished fortification nearly opposite and in the mouth of the entrance to Hampton Roads. The lights on the Virginia shore of the Chesapeake Bay are being removed or extinguished, it is supposed by order of the authorities of that State.

The Philadelphia American advises the government at Washington "to strike at the heart of Secession—to strike at the ports and cities on the Southern coast—to strike at Richmond, and to hold the Chesapeake from head to mouth." What does General Scott say to all this "striking" at his native State? But let them "strike." They will find it easier to say than do.

We cannot see, entertaining the sentiments towards the Southern people which they now profess, why the Northern people should wish to live with them one hour under the same government. The South knows that, living together is no longer agreeable, or even possible. Why not agree to separate in peace?

The New York Courier & Enquirer is more belligerent and savage against the "rebels" than ever. They must, it says, be "starved out"—the loves on the Mississippi broken down—the negroes offered freedom—and every other demon-like suggestion for a horrible civil war made and urged.

At the special election in Baltimore, on Wednesday, to fill a vacancy in the Legislature, (to meet to-day,) only one ticket was run—the Secession ticket. Secession flags are now displayed in the city. The military are held in readiness. Maryland will no doubt secede.

The London Journals publish the Constitution of the Confederate States, without much comment. The Agent of the Confederate States, is now in Paris, waiting for an interview, on the subject of his mission, with the Ministers or the Emperor.

The Students and School boys in New York city, are making a "lion" of Major Anderson, who, good humoredly, attends their exhibitions, and gives them, (as Walter Scott used to say, he did, when he was in London,) "a sight of his mane, and a wag of his tail."

It is understood that the government at Washington, have given order to such vessels as are at their disposal for that service, to carry into effect Lincoln's late proclamation, of a blockade of the ports of the seceded States.

The negroes in Milton, N. C., have burned Lincoln in effigy, for the reason that, because he cannot get on with his own "house-keeping," he is endeavoring to destroy his neighbor's house, and injure his neighbor's servants.

The New York Chamber of Commerce is making itself conspicuous, in support of Lincoln's war policy—giving the Administration its aid and countenance. Very well. New York will long be remembered—for this, and other matters.

The number of recent resignations in the Army and Navy, of Clerks in the Departments, and of officers in other positions, cannot yet be accurately known. They are numerous.

The only means of communication between Washington city and the Virginia shore, is by the Long Bridge. This bridge is now guarded, at the Washington end, by about five hundred men, with artillery.

Great reliance is placed in the Northern papers upon the effect of the Blockade of the Southern ports. We shall see. As, also, upon the threatened descent of a flotilla down the Mississippi.

Lieut. B. W. Frobel, of the United States cutter "Forward," tendered his resignation to President Lincoln on Friday last.

The New York Herald says "the campaign is to be opened in Maryland."

Seven thousand men, in all, have left New York city for Washington city.

There are said to be 10,000 Federal troops between York and Harrisburg.

It is proper that our own people should know—for being no braggarts themselves, they act with a resolution which nothing can shake,—that so far as indications are given in the Northern papers, the feeling in that section of the country is all hostile; and that the fighting part of the population, to a very considerable extent, volunteer, or profess to be ready for a call—and that the leading men of all parties seem to be united in upholding and approving the course of Lincoln's administration. It is a war of sections, according to the present aspect of the case. And in this war, the South will be able, ultimately, to resist its invaders, to repel them, and to secure its rights.

FAYETTEVILLE ARSENAL.—The Raleigh Register says: Fayetteville Arsenal, previously surrendered by the Union, contains 2,200 men, under command of General Draughton, who has assembled to take it if necessary, by force. The arms and munitions there were 37,000 stand of arms, 6,000 pistols, 3,000 kegs of powder, and any quantity of cannon balls and shells.

## NEWS OF THE DAY.

"To show the very age and body of the times."

The Pacific Mail Steamship Company, the New York Courier says, have acted in the most prompt manner to ensure the protection of passengers, and the security of freight and treasure on their steamers, in the Pacific. Besides supplying them abundantly with small arms, including revolvers, muskets, and cutlasses, and ammunition, each steamer will carry at least two heavy cannons or twelve pound cannon.

The Globe and Ocean in Newburyport, Mass., stop one third of their machinery; the Merrimack, Prescott, and other corporations in Lowell and Manchester do the same, and operations of the same kind are taking place all over the state of Massachusetts, to relieve the markets. The Newburyport mills have on hand their thin cloths, manufactured for several months past.

Commander John Rodgers, of the Navy, and Capt. Wright, of U. S. Engineers, who formed part of the Pawnee's recent expedition, and also a seaman of that vessel, were left behind in the Norfolk Navy Yard when it was destroyed. Information received on Tuesday, gives assurance of their personal safety, as prisoners.

We had in the Mobile Tribune of the 10th, that a surprise of Fort Pickens had been planned for Friday night, the 12th inst., but that it was defeated by a person named Matthews, a correspondent of the Pensacola Observer, who betrayed the design to the U. S. officers.

A proposition has been made in Boston to organize a coast guard to operate in protecting the commerce of the New England ports against the attacks of privateers. An appeal to the merchants and seamen of Massachusetts on the subject, has been printed and circulated.

It is said that the women of Troy have invented a new feature in their fairs. A parcel of handsome girls set themselves up and allow the "fellows" to kiss them for 123 cents per kiss. One girl made \$62 in one evening. One man took \$11 worth.

Charles county, Md., on Monday, appropriated \$25,000 to arm and equip the volunteers. At a public meeting held on that day, the citizens pledged their whole property if necessary, for the defense of the county.

The New York, United States District Attorney, has called on the Judge of the Circuit Court for a special jury to prosecute parties sympathizing with the Southern Confederacy in New York.

The Charleston Mercury says, that the two South Carolina regiments selected to march North, are those commanded by Col. Muxey Gregg and Col. Pettigrew.

Flour has advanced one dollar per barrel, and coal has risen as high as seven dollars and fifty cents per ton in Baltimore.

Great fears are expressed for the safety of Dupont's powder mills, in Delaware.

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

## A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, in the emergency which was supposed to exist during the past week, arising from information that an invasion of the rivers of the State was about to be made, and the movements of the vessels of the United States with troops into the waters of this Commonwealth and the unusual destruction of public property by the agents of that Government, both at Harper's Ferry and at the Gosport Navy Yard, gave ample reason for such belief; and whereas, under such circumstances, sundry vessels in the waters of the James River, the Rappahannock, York and Potomac Rivers, and their tributaries, have been seized and detained by the authorities of the State, or officers acting under patriotic motives without authority, and it is proper that such vessels and property should be promptly restored to the masters in command or to the owners thereof; therefore, I, JOHN LETCHER, Governor of the Commonwealth, do hereby proclaim that all private vessels and property so seized or detained, with the exception of the steamers Jamestown and Yorktown, shall be released and delivered up to the said masters or owners. Proper Navy officers have been assigned to each of the rivers of the State, heretofore mentioned, with orders to release such vessels and property, and give certificates for damages incurred by the seizure and detention.

I feel it my duty, furthermore, to advise the people of the Commonwealth (not in the Military service of the State) to return to their usual avocations, in connection with the trade and commerce of the country, assuring them protection and defense. If War is to be inaugurated by an attempt to invade this Commonwealth, or to use coercion against the Southern Confederate States, a contingency dependent on the action of the Government of the United States, it shall be met and conducted by this Commonwealth upon principles worthy of civilized nations and of this enlightened age. I appeal to all our people not to interfere with peaceable, unoffending citizens or others who preserve the peace and conform to our laws, and I do hereby especially discontinue all acts of seizure of private property without authority of law, and require that order shall be restored, and that all the laws be administered and executed by the tribunals especially assigned for the purpose.

Given under my hand as Governor, and under the seal of the Commonwealth at Richmond, 24th of April, 1861, and in the 58th year of the Commonwealth.

JOHN LETCHER.

By the Governor.

George W. Munford,

Secretary of the Commonwealth.

The following officers of the State Navy are assigned to the duties required by this proclamation:

For James River—Captain Cooke and Commander Tucker.

For Potomac River—Capt. Forrest, Lieut. Semmes.

For Rappahannock River—Lieut. Lewis.

For York River—Commander J. L. Henderson and Lieut. J. S. Murry.

## FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Borax has lately been employed in Europe for the adulteration of milk. It hinders souring and curdling, enables the adulterator to dissolve brains and other raw materials for the artificial milk manufacturer, in large quantity, and thus employ more water without risk of suspicion, than can be done with the aid of soda, while the taste is less affected than by the alkali.

Files of Rio Janeiro papers to March 14, have come to hand. There is no local news of any importance. The coffee market is nearly paralyzed, and foreign exchange shows a tendency to decline. Some negotiations were effected at 25 and 25 1/2. The splendid ferry house which went out last fall from New York, in detach portions, was being rapidly finished.

The news of the American secession movement and the meetings in Manchester and London, with regard to the cotton supply, arrived in India on the 27th of February, and occasioned great excitement.

The late terrible inundations in Holland have reduced 60,000 people to the depths of poverty.

Extensive warlike preparations are made in France.

## VIRGINIA NEWS.

The Tenth Legion says:—"Troops, consisting of cavalry, and every description of infantry, are daily arriving by railroad from the counties of Rockbridge, Augusta, Rockingham, &c., on their way to the 'seat of war.' On Sunday last some four hundred went down in the cars, and a company of cavalry from Lexington. Several companies are yet back. The whole country is in a blaze, and if necessary, Virginia can furnish one hundred thousand volunteers to meet the federal army and to expel the abolition despot and his camp-followers from our soil."

The Staunton Spectator says:—"On Monday morning, one hundred and eighty cadets from Lexington, under the command of Major Colston, left this place, for Richmond. They will be detailed, we suppose, to different portions of the State for the purpose of drilling companies of Militia. They presented quite a fine appearance. By the same train, seven cannons from Lexington were sent to Richmond."

At a public meeting held at Reebertown, on the 20th inst., R. H. Carter addressed the meeting, a rifle company was organized, and Richard H. Carter elected Captain; Henry C. Bowie, 1st Lieutenant; J. W. Pierce, 2d Lieutenant; and J. H. Washington, 3d Lieutenant; and it was agreed to tender their services to the Governor. R. M. Sutton was in the Chair, and Virgil Weaver, Secretary.

The Town Council of Staunton, on Wednesday, the 17th inst., made an appropriation of \$3,000 for the purchase of 100 firearms, equipments and ammunition, for the use of the "Home Guard" in Staunton, and \$500, to be applied to the wants of the families of the soldiers, who have been, or will be, called into service.

The small note scheme meets with popular favor amongst the citizens of Richmond. The introduction of the system could not have been more opportune, as it will relieve hundreds from the embarrassment and losses which attend "hard times," when change is scarce and brokers inexorable.

On Monday, the County Court of Augusta appropriated the sum of \$50,000, or more, as may be needed, for the equipment of volunteers, and the support of the families of the soldiers called into service—the sum of \$30,000 for the former purpose, and \$20,000 for the latter.

The Lynchburg Virginian, of Thursday, says:—"There was a fall of snow on the mountains, Monday night. Yesterday, the mountains near this city, presented a very wintry appearance, wrapped in a mantle of snow."

We understand that nearly three-fourths of the students of the Virginia University, have volunteered for the war. A number of the students of Columbia College, Washington city, have also left to serve in the Virginia military.

A slave in Lexington voluntarily commenced taking up a subscription among his colored friends, in that place, for the relief of the families of the soldiers who had gone to fight the Yankees. When last heard of, he had raised the sum of \$100.

Six of the Rifled Parrot guns, recently purchased for the use of the State, were sent to Norfolk on Thursday last, by order of the Governor, over the Norfolk and Petersburg Railroad. The cannon spoken of are of the most effective kind known.

The city council of Lynchburg has appropriated \$1,000 to each military company, of one hundred men, organized in that city for active State service.

It is said that the delegate from Page county, Mr. Burt, was a prominent leader in the seizure of the late U. S. Government property, in Richmond.

As an indication of the spirit of the people, we will state that Mr. C. R. Mason, of Staunton, has tendered to Gov. Letcher 200 hands and 300 mules and carts.

The Court of Page County, has passed an order appropriating \$4,000 for equipping the volunteers, agreeing to increase the amount if needed.

The military boys of Lynchburg, Va., who are going to war are having their photographs taken, to leave as mementoes with the loved ones at home.

It is gratifying to know that, so far, the growing crops, in all parts of the State, are looking well.

The road law, recently adopted in Fauquier County, has been repealed.

## Washington News.

It is said that the late States and Union newspaper, died from want of support, and from that cause only.

It is said that the Saloon, at Roche's Spring, at the Virginia end of the Long Bridge, has been broken into, and the furniture and fixtures smashed up. It is not known by whom.

The Government here continues to assert that the Northern troops, by the way of Annapolis, are coming on, and will be in Washington "in due time."

The government here professes to be satisfied with the "war feeling" excited in the North and West, and say they can have as many troops as they want. They will want all they can get.

Mr. Burn, a citizen of Washington, has gone insane, in consequence of the dreadful state of affairs in the country.

Yesterday afternoon, a train of cars, with three companies of soldiers, went out on the road as far as Annapolis Junction. The track had not been disturbed, and at the junction everything was quiet.

The Appomattox River is "a good time" now appointing their Northern friends to office, no Southerners being applicants.

Washington city is "a camp"—thousands of soldiers—such as they are—and more coming—if they can get here. All the public buildings are guarded—and the President's House especially.

The Republican papers at the North are giving plans for the defense of Washington—batteries on the heights overlooking the Potomac—batteries at the bridges—batteries—and batteries there. They say the great danger is from the Northern boundary towards Maryland.

The Post Office Department had made arrangements to have the Northern mail brought through to Washington from Havre de Grace by a four-hour train.

Richmond Items.—The Lynchburg troops arrived last night, about 9 o'clock, and quartered at the Central Hotel. There were three companies, each numbering over 100 men.

Brigadier General E. D. Bonham, at the head of five hundred troops from South Carolina arrived here last evening by the Southern train. A large crowd of citizens and an escort of Virginia troops awaited them at the depot. Every man of them looked a hero. The Virginians cheered South Carolina and the South Carolinians, in return cheered for the Old Dominion.

The subscription started for the assistance of the families of the volunteers in the service has been extended to four thousand dollars, with every prospect of a large daily addition for some time to come.

An order from the Ordnance Department, says:—"It is impossible for Ammunition to be furnished for the calibers of arms obtained elsewhere than at this armory as the Department has not the moulds, nor does it know the dimensions. Commanding officers of such companies must put up their own ammunition the cost of which will be paid by this Department."

## BY THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA.

## A PROCLAMATION.

The Convention of the Commonwealth of Virginia, having adopted, on the 17th day of April, 1861, an ordinance "to repeal the ratification of the Constitution of the United States of America by the State of Virginia, and to resume all the rights and powers which the people of Virginia are entitled to reserve," and by the said ordinance, required polls to be open for the ratification or rejection of the same by the people of this State, on the 4th Thursday in May next: Now, therefore, I, JOHN LETCHER, Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, do hereby proclaim that the annexed is an authentic copy of the said ordinance and schedule, and that all officers designated therein are required to conform to its provisions, in every respect.

Given under my hand, as Governor, and under the seal of the Commonwealth, at Richmond, the twenty-fourth day of April, 1861, and in the 58th year of the Commonwealth.

JOHN LETCHER.

By the Governor.

George W. Munford,

Secretary of the Commonwealth.

AN ORDINANCE TO REPEAL THE RATIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, BY THE STATE OF VIRGINIA, AND TO RESUME ALL THE RIGHTS AND POWERS GRANTED UNDER SAID CONSTITUTION, BY THE PEOPLE OF VIRGINIA, IN THE RATIFICATION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ADOPTED BY THEM IN CONVENTION, ON THE 25th day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, having declared that the powers granted under the said Constitution were derived from the people of the United States, and might be resumed whenever the same should be perverted to their injury and oppression, and the Federal Government having perverted said powers, not only to the injury of the people of Virginia, but to the oppression of the Southern slaveholding States:

Now, therefore, we, the people of Virginia, do declare and ordain that the Ordinance adopted by the people of this State, in Convention, on the twenty-fifth day of June, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight, whereby the Constitution of the United States of America was ratified, and all acts of the General Assembly of this State, ratifying or adopting amendments to said Constitution are hereby repealed and abrogated; that the Union between the State of Virginia and the other States under the Constitution of the United States is hereby dissolved, and that the State of Virginia is in the full possession and exercise of all the rights of sovereignty which belong and appertain to a free and independent State. And they do further declare, that said Constitution of the United States of America is no longer binding on any of the citizens of this State.

This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force, from the date of its passage, and the votes of the people of this State, cast at a poll to be taken thereon, on the fourth Thursday in May next, in pursuance of a schedule hereafter to be enacted.

Done in Convention, in the city of Richmond, on the seventeenth day of April, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one, and in the eighty-fifth year of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

A True Copy. JOHN L. EUBANK,

Secretary of Convention.

## SCHEDULE.

It shall be the duty of the officers conducting the elections directed by law to be held on the fourth Thursday in May next, at the places appointed for holding the same, to open a poll to take the sense of the qualified voters of this Commonwealth, upon the ratification or rejection of "An ordinance to repeal the ratification of the Constitution of the United States of America, by the State of Virginia, and to resume all the rights and powers granted under said Constitution," adopted in Convention, at the city of Richmond, on the 17th day of April, one thousand eight hundred and sixty-one.

2. The poll-book shall be headed "The Ordinance of Secession," and shall contain two columns, one headed "For Ratification," and the other "For Rejection," and the names of those who vote for ratification of the said Ordinance shall be written under the former heading, and the names of those who vote for its rejection, shall be written under the latter heading.

3. The said officers shall make return of the number of persons voting for each proposition, at the time and in the manner provided by law in the case of other elections, and shall forthwith deliver the returns, together with the poll-books to the clerks of their respective counties and corporations; and it shall be the duty of such clerks respectively to transmit immediately to the Governor of the Commonwealth, copies of the said returns so delivered to them.

4. The Governor shall, without delay, make proclamation of the result, stating therein the aggregate vote for and against the ratification, to be published in such newspapers in the State as may be deemed requisite for general information; and if a majority of said votes be cast for the ratification of the said Ordinance, he shall annex to his proclamation a copy thereof, together with this schedule.

5. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall cause to be sent to the clerks of each county and corporation, as many copies of this Schedule and Ordinance aforesaid as there are places of voting therein, and three copies to each of the military commanders hereinafter referred to, using special messengers for that purpose, when necessary. And it shall be the duty of said clerks to deliver the same to the said military commanders, whose duty it shall be forthwith to post the said copies at some public place in each election district.

6. The expenses incurred in providing poll books and in procuring writers to enter the names of the voters therein, shall be defrayed, in the case of the election of members to the General Assembly.

7. The qualified voters of the Commonwealth who may be absent from the counties or corporations of their residence on the day of election, in the military service of the State, may vote for the ratification or rejection of said Ordinance at such places or places within their encampment, or, as the commander at such encampment shall designate, whether the said encampment shall be within the limits of the State or not. For each place voting he shall appoint a superintendent, three commissioners, and as many clerks as shall be necessary, who, having been first duly sworn by him shall perform the duties required of, and be liable to the penalties imposed upon such officers, under the election laws of this State.

8. The officers conducting the said election shall, on the day after the election, as soon thereafter as may be, deliver the poll books to their said commander, who shall forthwith forward the same to the Governor of this Commonwealth, who shall send out the said votes for ascertaining the result of the said election in the manner provided by this Convention.

9. That the election for members of Congress for this State to the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, required by law to be held on the 4th Thursday in May next, is hereby suspended and prohibited, until otherwise ordered by this Convention.

Done in Convention, in the City of Richmond, on the twenty-fourth day of April, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and in the eighty-fifth year of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

A True Copy. JOHN L. EUBANK,

Secretary of Convention.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

"What does the South want?"—Hale.

This question, so often asked by Hale and others, in place of candid responses, to candid and fair demands of Breckinridge and others, is in union with the treachery of that party, so fully shown of late. We are forcibly reminded of that sly and treacherous ruse of Santa Anna, at Buena Vista. When the host wing of his army was cornered, and past relief, he sent his white flag to know "what General Taylor wanted." The fight ceased, and his sly troops crept in, and helped their comrades off. Now, was there any sense in such a question? No, but he gained his point; yet received the just reward of his craft.

Thus it is with this wicked party, now in power. "What does the South want?" is about all we have heard from them—when we were pleading for justice and peace—Virginia and Kentucky mourning and weeping, and praying, that their lost sisters might be restored. What do you want now, when we get the fearful and unnatural mother night, or a chance, make such answer to her starving child, while possessed of the means for ample relief—but wouldn't that be an extreme case? Now, let your readers see the appeal made by Breckinridge; just, calm, respectful; in brief, covers the whole ground of difficulty.

"He reviewed all the measures of compromise proposed since the commencement of the session, and said he wanted the people of Kentucky to know that the Northern ultimatum was an amendment of the Constitution, denying Congress the power to prohibit slavery in the States, which the most ultra republican never claimed Congress had power to do. He saw, he said, in a speech of Mr. Seward to the Illinois delegation, the introduction of a policy, which, if not thwarted by the radicals, would probably soon be fixed upon as the policy of the Republican party. Mr. Seward told the delegation on that occasion, that when freedom was in danger, he had urged them to stand up for it, but now freedom was safe, the Union was in danger, and they must look to that now—we must preserve the Union in order to carry out our principle. He said, he saw, in a speech of Mr. Seward, that the Union party in the Border States, backed and controlled by Federal patronage, and in the name of the Union to start a freefall party in those States—shifting, for a time, the issue in the border States, yet putting the land from side to side. From his place in the Senate he warned the Border States of this plot. These States had stood firm to the Union, and with a gallant band at the North had never ceased a Union struggle; they had asked, begged, and implored the people to stay loyal to the Union—and this was their reward. It was not fear of coercion, or of bloodletting—for he would tell the "blood letting" Senator (Mr. Chandler) that Kentucky had shed more blood on the soil of Kentucky than could be shed on the soil of Kentucky. They could not bend their bright forehead to the dust. She would exhaust all means of peaceful settlement, and if all failed, would turn her face south and unite with a confederacy that knew how to be a nation. He concluded by declaring that if the President chose to rise above party to patriotism, and withdraw the troops from the seceded States, the nation would hail him as a benefactor. The issues of peace and war were before him, let him choose his choice."

The answer is "what does the South want?" \* Did they want to establish slavery in the free States? If so, let them elect a Democratic President in 1864, and let him announce that he wished it so, and the Supreme Court would soon fix it off for him." This is the poor slang—the Hedge-hog reply of the Lieut. Governor of New England, to remarks worthy to be made in any place on earth, and as appreciable to our awful crisis, so "filthy spoken."